

1 Kings 8:25

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Therefore now, LORD God of Israel, keep with thy servant David my father that thou promisedst him, saying, There shall not fail thee a man in my sight to sit on the throne of Israel; so that thy children take heed to their way, that they walk before me as thou hast walked before me.

Analysis

Therefore now, LORD God of Israel, keep with thy servant David my father that thou promisedst him, saying, There shall not fail thee a man in my sight to sit on the throne of Israel; so that thy children take heed to their way, that they walk before me as thou hast walked before me.

This verse contributes to the broader narrative of dedication of the temple, within the book's focus on Solomon's wisdom, temple building, and tragic apostasy.

The Hebrew text reveals nuances important for understanding this passage's contribution to 1 Kings' theological message about kingship, covenant, and faithfulness to Yahweh. This verse demonstrates the consequences when God's people—especially their leaders—either follow or forsake the covenant established at Sinai.

Historical Context

First Kings was written during or after the Babylonian exile (6th century BCE), reflecting on the monarchy period (10th-9th centuries BCE) to explain why the kingdoms fell. Solomon's reign (c. 970-930 BCE) represented Israel's golden age of

peace and prosperity.

Ancient Near Eastern kingship ideology viewed kings as divine representatives responsible for maintaining cosmic order through right worship. Archaeological discoveries from sites like Megiddo, Hazor, and Samaria confirm the historical reliability of 1 Kings' descriptions of building projects and administrative structures.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Study Questions

1. How does the temple as God's dwelling place help us understand Christ's incarnation and the church as God's temple today?
2. What does Solomon's prayer and dedication teach about approaching God in worship and prayer?
3. How does this verse point toward or prepare for the coming of Christ and His eternal kingdom?

Interlinear Text

וְעַד	ישָׁמַר	וְיִשְׁרָאֵל	אֱלֹהִים	יְהוָה	הִיא	וְעַת	הַזָּמָן
H6258	Therefore now LORD	H3068	God	H430	of Israel	H3478	keep
							with thy servant
לֹא	לֹא	מֵרָא	לֹא	דָּבָר	דָּבָר	לֹא	לֹא
לֹא	לֹא	מֵרָא	לֹא	דָּבָר	דָּבָר	לֹא	לֹא
David	my father	H1732	H853	H834	that thou promisedst	H1696	him saying
		H1					H3808
כִּי	אַתָּה	עַל	יְשִׁבָּה	לִפְנֵי	אִישׁ	לְבָבֶךָ	כִּי
There shall not fail	H3772	H0	thee a man	H376	before	H6440	to sit
							H5921
							on the throne
							H3678
דָּרְכֶם	אַתָּה	בְּנֵי	בְּנֵי	וְיִשְׁמַר	וְיִשְׁמַר	בְּנֵי	דָּרְכֶם
of Israel	so	H518	keep	H8104	that thy children	H1121	to their way
H3478	H7535						H1870
לִפְנֵי	כָּל	כָּל	כָּל	כָּל	כָּל	כָּל	לִפְנֵי
me as thou hast walked	H1980	before	H6440	H834	me as thou hast walked	H1980	before
							H6440

Additional Cross-References

1 Kings 2:4 (References Lord): That the LORD may continue his word which he spake concerning me, saying, If thy children take heed to their way, to walk before me in truth with all their heart and with all their soul, there shall not fail thee (said he) a man on the throne of Israel.